

Serial No. 10/619,956
Art Unit 1772

Amendment A

Amendments to and Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An over-molded fitment configured for mounting and sealing to a flexible packaging material comprising:
a flange having first and second sides;
a spout extending upwardly from the first side of the flange; and
an over-molded a sealing media molded over and onto the first side of the flange,
wherein the flange and spout are integral with one another and formed from a single first material, and wherein the over-molded sealing media is formed from a second material different from the first material and having a density less than a density of the first material, the sealing media configured for disposition between the first side of the flange and the flexible packaging material when the fitment is mounted and sealed to the flexible packaging material, the sealing media being heat activated to effectively weld the fitment to the flexible packaging material.
2. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first material is high density polyethylene.
3. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 2 wherein the second material is a homogeneously branched ethylene-octene copolymer, wherein the first material has a melting point temperature and the second material has a melting point temperature less than the melting point temperature of the first material.
4. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 1 including a thread formed on an outer surface of the spout.

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5. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first material has a melting point temperature about 110°F greater than a melting point temperature of the second material.

6. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first material has a melting point temperature of about 265°F and the second material has a melting point temperature of about 155°F.

7. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first material is an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer and wherein the second material is formed from a composition including an ethylene-octene copolymer.

8. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 7 wherein the second material is formed from a composition that further includes a maleated polyolefin.

9. (Original) The over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 8 wherein the ethylene-octene copolymer is present in a concentration of about 75 percent by weight of the second material and the maleated polyolefin is present in a concentration of about 25 percent by weight of the second material.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for forming an over-molded fitment comprising the steps of:
forming a fitment from a molded material;
positioning the formed fitment in a mold; and
molding an over-molded sealing region onto a portion of the fitment.

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11. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 10 including the step of molding the over-molded sealing region onto the fitment at a temperature less than a melting point temperature of a material from which the fitment is formed.

12. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 10 including the step of forming the fitment from a high density polyethylene material.

13. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 10 including the step of forming the over-molded sealing region from a homogeneously branched ethylene-octene copolymer material.

14. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 10 including the step of forming the fitment from an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer and forming the overmolded sealing region from a composition including an ethylene-octene copolymer.

15. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 14 wherein the wherein the overmolded sealing region composition further include a maleated polyolefin.

16. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 15 wherein the overmolded sealing region composition includes the ethylene-octene copolymer in a concentration of about 75 percent by weight of the overmolded sealing region material and includes the maleated polyolefin in a concentration of about 25 percent by weight of the overmolded sealing region material.

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17. (Withdrawn) The method for forming an over-molded fitment in accordance with claim 14 wherein the overmolded sealing region is molded onto the portion of the fitment at a temperature of about 550°F.

18. (Currently amended) A package comprising:
a flexible packaging material;
an over-molded fitment configured for mounting to the flexible packaging, the over-molded fitment including a flange having first and second sides, a spout extending upwardly from the first side of the flange, and
~~an over-molded a sealing media molded over and~~ onto the first side of the flange,
wherein the flange and spout are integral with one another and formed from a single first material, and wherein the over-molded sealing media is formed from a second material different from the first material and having a lower density than a density of the first material, and wherein the sealing media is disposed between the first side of the flange and the flexible packaging material when the fitment is mounted and sealed to the flexible packaging material, the sealing media being heat activated to effectively weld the fitment to the flexible packaging material.

19. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 18 wherein the first material is high density polyethylene.

20. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 18 wherein the first material is an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer and wherein the second material is formed from a composition including an ethylene-octene copolymer.

21. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 20 wherein the second material is formed from a composition that further includes a maleated polyolefin.

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22. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 21 wherein the ethylene-octene copolymer is present in a concentration of about 75 percent by weight of the second material and the maleated polyolefin is present in a concentration of about 25 percent by weight of the second material.

23. (Currently amended) The package in accordance with claim 18 wherein the second material is a homogeneously branched ethylene-octene copolymer, the first material having a melting point temperature and the second material having a melting point temperature less than the melting point temperature of the first material, the over-molded sealing media configured for heat-sealing to the flexible packaging material.

24. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 18 including a thread formed on an outer surface of the spout.

25. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 23 wherein the first material has a melting point temperature about 110°F greater than a melting point temperature of the second material.

26. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 25 wherein the second material has a density of less than about 0.90 g/cc.

27. (Original) The package in accordance with claim 26 wherein the second material has a density of about 0.875 g/cc.